THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

BY THOMAS EMMERSON, AT $1 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE—OR $1 50 AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

VOL. II.—No. 3.] JONESBOROUGH, MARCH, 1837. [Whole No. 27.

FOR THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

Culture of Blue Grass---No. 4.

CLINTON COLLEGE, Feb. 14.

In my 3rd number I gave the management indispensable to the production of good pasture; as well as the manner of restoring Bluegrass lots which have been worn out or exhausted by bad management. And here, two very important questions will present themselves to Tennesseans, viz:

1st. What shall be done with the live trees upon our woodland pastures?

2d. How shall we keep our pastures free of weeds and briars? The former of these quesries I must answer now, and leave the latter for a subsequent number.

1st. What shall we do with the trees upon woodland pastures? My answer is, deaden, in May, nearly all trees, which will not do for rails or buildings. You are to deaden in May, for the reason that graziers are agreed that trees deadened at this season die one year sooner, than if belted any other time. And it is advisable to make two incisions around the tree and take out the chip between, because you then insure a speedy death. Were your trees deadened in May preceding the spring when you are to sow, you might burn off the leaves just before sowing, and the trees would produce no more leaves that could injure your grass, yet it will answer tolerably well, to sow first, and deaden the May following.

But you will ask, what shall we then do for firewood? This, I know, is a serious question; it is one, too, which will be difficult to explain to the satisfaction of those who are not already acquainted with the facts from which I shall reason. But it must be answered satisfactorily, or we shall in vain urge the propriety of covering the whole face of our country with grass. Then I must request the reader to observe my arguments with as much fairness as he can, while I direct them to the support of three propositions. I propose to prove, 1st, That deadening trees, as here directed, will not make firewood scarcer than our present management would make it.

2d. That it will save rail timber.

3d. That it will increase the profit of labor and capital, and enhance the value of land.

1st. As to the first position, with astonishment at the seeming paradox, you will ask how can it be, that deadening and burning most of our trees fit only for fire-wood, will not make them scarcer? You urge, that when we kill a tree and consume it by setting fire to it, our wood is surely diminished to the amount of that tree. This is true; and every tree you thus destroy is lost forever. But I must request your deliberate thoughts, while we compare the amount of wood destroyed by our present system of farming, with what will be destroyed by the grazing system urged in this and my former numbers, and when you have heard me through, I think you will agree, that deadening trees will not make them scarcer than we are daily making them. And in the outset, let me give you my explanation by a plain comparison. When your young orchard has grown "top heavy" do you not save your trees by loping off some of the branches? Thus you destroy some parts of your trees to save the rest. But suppose, that when your apple trees have grown large, you were to find that they are planted too close together, would you not prevent your trees from decay, and thus save trees and fruit by cutting some of them down? Though you would at first diminish the number of your trees in this way, yet in the end, you would have more live trees than if you were to destroy none at the outset. Do you not pull "suckers" from your corn and tobacco, and gain both corn and tobacco by that kind of destruction? And do you not make more cotton, onions and radishes, by thinning the underlings out? Now, I do not mean that thinning firewood will make the remainder increase, and thus save wood; for though it is true, that trees will grow faster where they have full room, yet this is a minor matter—but I mean, that by destroying some trees, you will have time and means to save the balance.

1. We now leave to rot in the woods the lops of rail trees, and hundreds of others which die and tumble to the ground. The amount of wood thus left to waste is at least ten times as much as we burn for firewood. The grazier, who lives by his grass principally, has full time, at different seasons of the year, to cut, split, and gather up all wood thus subject to waste; thus, at leisure times (we have no leisure times) the grazier collects all wasting wood on his land and, in advance, provides for the winter. The portions of his rail trees which will not do for rails, are always amply sufficient for his firewood; and he has time to haul it in good weather. If some of his wood is distant from his dwelling he is not still prevented from saving it; because, while he hauls, his grass in the

thinned woodlands grows on and affords a profit which will buy his team and haul his wood.—The grass produced by killing one tree will buy 3 or 4 as good, and pay for hauling them several miles. But our hurried mode of farming never allows us time to gather up and save the wood which is rotting every where.

2. When we wear out a field we are compelled to clear another, when we destroy all firewood and all rail timber not required to fence the field the first time. But graziers never wear out their fields; hence they are not compelled to clear a great quantity of ground. Grazing makes their land rich, and a small amount of tillable land will do them. And after they have once destroyed their undergrowth enough to make good pasture, they never are urged to destroy any more, but are prepared to save all that is liable to decay, while every foot of land is producing a most profitable crop of grass, corn, &c.

3. The grazier has also time and means to construct his fire-places so as to burn but little wood. His grass will pay for stoves, furnaces, and every other convenience and plan of economy. Our "log-heap fires" are no warmer than 1-4 of the wood thus consumed would be, were our fire places well constructed.

But if this reasoning will not satisfy the reader, let me appeal to some plainer evidences.—More than forty years ago, Robert Cunningham of Clarke county in Kentucky, purchased blue-grass seed, on the South branch of the Potomac river in Virginia, for which he gave $8 per bushel. He purchased 200 acres of land in Clarke, where he now lives, and deadened all his trees except rail timber. Being the first man in that State who began the grazing system, his neighbors were astonished at him, and told him that he would soon be without firewood, and for that reason would be compelled to sell his land to them and move. But Mr. C. understood the business better than they, and uniformly replied to them all, "you are saving yours, and my grass will buy your wood." And his prediction was true, for he now owns land all around him to the amount of several thousand acres, all covered with grass; and he told me, in October last, that all this land had been purchased by the profits of the grass first produced upon his 200 acre tract. He further stated that, though he had a large family, and had lived there upwards of forty years, yet he had firewood enough on that same 200 acres which he first deadened, to last him 100 years to come, if he could live that long. Other farmers in that county, and in those adjoining, gave me similar statements.

An extent of country around and above Lexington, some 60 miles in diameter, is all in grass except what is tilled. The inhabitants have all deadened their trees and burnt them, yet they do not dread a scarcity of firewood. Wood can now be bought in Lexington for $4 a cord, about as low as in Nashville of this State, where they say, they are saving wood. In fact I have no doubt but that the graziers of Kentucky have now more firewood than they would have had if they had not deadened, sowed grass, and saved wood as they have done. And if we continue our wasteful habits, they will have an abundance of fire-wood fifty years hence, when many of us will be compelled to sell our homes and emigrate for the want of wood and rail timber. I know many farms in our State which have been sold already for the want of wood and timber, and not one fiftieth tree on those farms was consumed as firewood. Thirty years ago, the almost sole objection to this country was that it was too heavily timbered. That timber has been slain, and one vast scene of waste has been exhibited ever since. There is on the tract where I am now writing, wood enough upon the ground to supply 50 fire places for 20 years to come, which, if not gathered up and kept dry, will all be useless in 5 or 6 years at most. Every year brings more trees to the ground, which lie and rot. Thus many a farmer who would refuse to sow grass for fear of making wood scarce has now so many logs rotting over his woodlands, that it would be almost impossible for you to ride through them. If he would deaden and burn half his wood and sow pasture, to get time and means to save the balance he would wisely prevent that scarcity of wood which will certainly and speedily come according to his present wasteful system. Since I saw the economy of graziers in wood, I have been surprised at our reasoning upon the subject. Is it not absurd that a man shall urge that he is saving wood, when from bad management, ten times as much wood wastes upon his farm as he uses? We think it wise to extract a decayed tooth to preserve the rest—to sell some of a numerous stock to take better care of the remainder—to hang or imprison a bad citizen to make others better—to burn all useless papers that we may manage the balance more satisfactorily—to have no larger farm or garden than we can cultivate well—to throw all decayed apples out that the rest may be preserved—to spend a few dollars in paint to preserve a dwelling worth as many hundreds—to give some corn for a lock to keep thieves from taking the remainder. In short, it is a universal opinion, that we ought to expend some portion of any thing we have, if it be necessary, in order to preserve the balance. Yet, when this same every-day, common-sense doctrine is applied to the preservation of timber and firewood we re-

ject it as absurd. And, no doubt, some one will pronounce me inconsistent, when he sees that I have proposed the destruction of a portion of our timber as the surest and cheapest way to preserve the balance. Be it so. But it still appears to me that I speak in this case, nothing more than the common-sense of every body upon every other subject of economy.

2d. My second proposition contends, that the proposed practice of deadening for pasture, will save rail trees and other timbers suitable for building, &c. This position is proved by the fact, that the Kentucky farmers who have had all their woodlands in pasture longer than Middle Tennessee has been settled, have now more of such timber than we have. They have it in abundance and are in no dread of scarcity.—There are two reasons why their mode of farming destroys less timber than ours:

1st. In making pastures, which are so profitable to them, they leave all good timber, and are not compelled to clear as much land as we. Thus, they preserve many timber trees, which would be destroyed by our mode of operating.

2d. They have full time to save every tree which is thrown down by the winds,and to split into rails every log and limb, which can be split at all. Whereas, we leave many trees to fall down and rot, and many of those we do attempt to split are left to waste. They even have time to make their fences of posts and rails, which mode of fencing requires much less timber than our hurried system of business compels us to use. But no one need dread a scarcity of rail timber on account of grass, for it is an easy matter to raise the Black Locust where you want it. I have seen groves of from 10 to 40 acres of the finest timber in the world, which have been reared in a few years, by a little attention. It is cheaper to fence with stone, or raise your timber at the spot where you want it, than to haul it from a distance. It is true that the grazier, having all his tract fenced, needs some more rails than we usually do, because we fence none but what we till. But the difference in this respect is not equal to the amount of timber he saves more than we. Besides, we usually have so many little patches and cross fences, and then our fences are so crooked and winding to include the level land and leave out the hills, that the rails on many a little farm would fence a large tract. I have often counted five or six fences, by looking in one direction to the distance of 2 or 300 yards. What a profusion of waste of this kind there is among us!

3d. The third and last position I am to prove, is, that deadening, and sowing pasture, will enrich our soil, and enhance the value of our land. Every one must see, that our woodlands are daily depreciating. Newly cleared land will not now produce more than half of what was common here when this country was first settled. And our fields are rapidly washing down into the Gulf of Mexico, and leaving the ravines of clay and the protruding limestone rocks,to present the face of our country in horrid deformity. We think we have warranty deeds for our lands, but this is a woful mistake; for it is daily, before our eyes, leaving us to fill up the Mexican Gulf, and thus, at a rapid rate, this once fertile country and its inhabitants are coming to poverty. Any mode rather than this. Let us try some other, we cannot be worsted. And need I say that a rich coat of grass will make your deed to your land valid? Need I urge that grass will not only preserve the soil you have, but improve it annually, while it will cover the whole face of your land with hogs, horses, sheep, mules and cattle, all fat and ready for market? But your land will not only be preserved and improved in fertility; its price will be astonishingly increased. Any country is worth more when put to the use for which nature intended it. Whenever we direct the efforts of our land to that kind of production for which the Deity intended it, its profits will be increased, and for that reason the price of the land itself will rise. There are portions of Kentucky where farming is as badly conducted as it is here, and consequently, land is worth only from 5 to $20 per acre, as is the case in this country. Tobacco and cotton in Kentucky or Tennessee, must forever keep down the price of land, because these States were not formed for these products. But in the counties of Kentucky where pasture is universal, their land is worth from 40 to $100 per acre. Yet, their land is no better for grass than most of ours. Hence, it is certain that universal pasturage here, would soon raise our land to $75 or $100 per acre. For the want of room I must say no more at present.

F. H. GORDON.

[*To be continued.*]

FOR THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

Making Cheese, as practised in one of the most eminent Dairies in New England.

Add the night's milk with the morning's, and heat it gently over a fire until well warm, then put in a tub or vat with sufficient prepared annatto to give it a handsome yellow color. Put rennet sufficient to make it curd in 25 minutes; when curded take a wooden knife or sword and chequer it all into squares to the bottom; let it stand from 15 to 20 minutes, or until the whey appears above the curd; break it up carefully with the hands in such a manner as not to bruise

or break the pieces of curd; next put a clean strainer on top of the curd so as the whey may arise on top, and lade it off with a dish or dipper; then put a cheese strainer in a cheese basket over a tub, and carefully remove the curd and remaining whey into it, and cut it into slices with a thin skimmer until the whey has mostly drained out; then bring the corners of the strainer together and twist them, so as to bring the curd in a solid mass, and put the twisted corners down in the basket, and a clean board about 1 foot square on the top of it, on which put about 20 weight, in order to press out the whey. After remaining about 15 minutes, the curd is to be cut in pieces about 1 inch square, and put back again with the weight on, and remain from 10 to 15 minutes, and then cut as last stated, and put back again, and so repeated from 6 to 10 times, or until the whey has entirely done dripping from it; after which take it out and cut in pieces of about 2 inches square put in a wooden bowl and chop with a chopping knife until the pieces are the size of Indian corn. The next is scalding the curd, which is done by putting it in the strainer and putting in the kettle of whey heated to blood warmth, for if the whey is too hot it will ruin the cheese, and make it dry and hard; while in the whey it must be stirred with the hand until the whole is equally heated; then it is taken out and put in a cheese basket over a tub and clean fine salt thoroughly mixed, to give it a high salt flavor, and let it stand until hardly blood-warm, then the corners of the strainer are twisted together as before, and put in the hoop and pressed, in this instance, with a weight of 100 lbs. to every 10 of cheese, to remain about half an hour, taken out and turned and re-placed in the press and add about one-third to the weight—then let it remain 3 hours. Then take it out and put it in a fine clean linen cloth, perfectly smooth, and no rinkles in it; put again in the press and press 48 hours, being taken out and turned once during the time. At this pressing about one third additional weight must be added. It must then be taken out, oiled, and put on the shelf, where it must be turned, rubbed and oiled at least every 24 hours. From long experience, I have found it the best method of making cheese. S.

COOKERY.

Under this head, we propose, from time to time, giving to our readers, a few receipts, which, though familiar to many housewives, we have reason to believe, will not be without value to others, and especially to young beginners in house-keeping.

We are aware that from the scarcity and cost of the ingredients directed to be used, and from the inaccuracy of the receipts themselves, such receipts are generally lightly esteemed, but as we shall insert none whose value has not been first tested by experiment, we can confidently recommend them as not unworthy the attention of our female readers.

RECEIPTS IN COOKERY.

To BOIL OLD HAM.—The boiling of bacon is a very simple subject to comment upon, but our main object is to teach common cooks the art of dressing common food, in the best manner.—Bacon is sometimes made as salt as salt can make it; therefore, before it is boiled, it must be soaked in warm water or par-boiled for an hour or two, changing the water once; then pare off the rusty and smoked part, trim it nicely on the underside, and scrape the rind as clean as possible. Give it plenty of water room, and put it in while the water is cold. A middling-sized ham of 15 lbs. will be done enough in about 4 or 5 hours, according to its thickness.—[Cook's Oracle.

To BROIL OLD HAM.—Slices of ham or bacon should not be more than half a quarter of an inch thick, and will eat much more mellow if soaked in hot water for a quarter of an hour, and then dried in a cloth, before they are broiled, &c.—[Ib.

To FRY COLD POTATOES.—Put a bit of clean Dripping into a frying pan; when it is melted, slice in your potatoes with a little pepper and salt, put them on the fire, keep stirring them; when they are quite hot, they are ready.—[Ib.

To MAKE POTATO BALLS.—Mix mashed potatoes with the yolk of an egg, roll them into balls, flour them, or egg and bread-crumb them, and fry them in clean drippings,—or brown them in a Dutch oven.—[Ib.

To MAKE NOTTINGHAM PUDDING.—Peel six good apples, take out the core with the point of a small knife, or an apple corer, if you have one, but be sure to leave the apples whole, fill up where you took the core from with sugar, place them in a pie-dish, and pour over them a nice light batter, prepared as for batter pudding, and bake an hour in a moderate oven.—[Ib.

To MAKE A BREAD PUDDING.—Make a pint of bread-crumbs, put them in a stew-pan with as much milk as will cover them, the peel of a lemon, and a little nutmeg grated, a small piece of cinnamon, boil about ten minutes; sweeten with brown or powdered loaf sugar; take out the cinnamon, and put in four eggs; beat all well together, and bake half an hour, or boil rather more than an hour.—Ib.

From the Farmers' Register.

THE PROPER DISTANCES FOR PLANTING CORN.

To the Editor of the Farmers' Register:

I hold it to be an axiom, that any subscriber to a useful and punctual periodical, who does not contribute to its support by paying his subscription, and furnishing any useful facts or theories of which he is in possession, is worthy of any punishment which a jury of editors would inflict.

Not choosing to subject myself any longer to the penalty due to such an offender, I send you my subscription and my mite of matter. The first will, I hope, justify you in paying the post whether the latter is worth printing or not.

In this world of fancies and Yankee notions, each man has his hobby. Some ride to the south; some glide swiftly on the bosom of the smooth canal; some fly through the air in balloons; some rattle on a rail road, and I, Mr. Editor, ride into my corn-field and speculate on the value, while I am enraptured by the beauty of that queen of plants.

While all the world is agog for cotton, the poor corn is neglected by all but those who eat it. Let us turn our eyes to it, while I give you the results of some experiments and calculations on its culture.

On the Eastern Shore of Virginia, (that most prosperous of all corn countries,) I am told it is the habit of the planters to plant their corn 4 feet each way—a single stalk at a place. When I first commenced farming, my impression was, that the most economical method of cultivating corn, all things considered, was to plant it so as to plough it both ways, and thereby dispense with the hoe-work. I tried it.—Experience and reason have changed my opinion. In 1835, I cultivated a light sandy field in corn, (much such land as that on the Eastern Shore, but not so good.) Part of it I planted 5 by 3, and part, (the best land) 4 by 4 feet—both were ploughed both ways and received the same culture: the cut 4 by 4 was favored rather the most, because it seemed to suffer. The result was, the corn 4 by 4, suffered for distance, while that 5 by 3, had a plenty of room and was a good crop. This set me to thinking—and the result of my cogitations amounted to the conclusion, that corn must have a plenty of distance one way; else why was the corn 4 by 4 too thick, while that 5 by 3 had distance enough—when there were more stalks on an acre of the latter, than on one of the former—which reminds me that many persons, and they intelligent and educated farmers too, think—no, conclude without thinking—that because 4 and 4, and 5 and 3, and 5½ and 3½, 6 and 2, and so on, when severally added, make 8—that, therefore, there are the same number of stalks on an acre, planted in either way.

This you know is not the fact—on the contrary, the number of stalks is inversely as the *product* of the two numbers. For instance, the number of stalks on an acre 4 by 4, is to the number on an acre 6 by 2, as 12 is to 16. The reason is this—more land can be contained in a square than in any other rectangular figure—consequently, there are fewer squares in an acre, than there are of any other rectangular figure—so, also, the nearer these figures approach to a square, or the further they are removed from one, the less or the greater is their number.

This important consideration, together with the fact above stated, resolved me to cultivate my corn this year on a different plan.

I accordingly planted it 5½ feet one way, and 1½ to 2½ feet the other, according to the quality of the land. My corn was as good, and better worked in this way, and I cultivated it with as little trouble. By using an X wooden drag, twice in a row, about a week after each ploughing—first, when the grass begins to spring, you leave your land as level, and keep it as clean, as you can by cultivating it in any other way—hoe or no hoe. Moreover, the greater the distance one way, the less your corn will be ridged by ploughing; and, therefore, the more dirt you can throw immediately around it without injury. If I am wrong in any of my deductions, I hope you, or some experienced corn planter, will put me right: for, until experience or reason changes my views, I will plant my land 6 by 2, which, according to old style, would be planted 4 by 4. There are ¼ more stalks on an acre of the former, than on one of the latter. I contend the last is the thickest. In the mean time,

am, yours, &c.,

SIX AND TWO.

COTTON CROPS IN TEXAS.—We have information from a gentleman of this State, who was in Texas a few weeks ago, that he gathered, from plantations on the Colorado, where not a blow had been struck this year by the hoe or plough, and where not a single seed had been thrown into the ground, cotton in the proportion of from 1600 to 2000 pounds to the acre. The seed had taken from what remained on the ground of last years' crop, and was entirely spontaneous, having had no care during the progress of its growth. The same gentleman saw gathered from cultivated ground on the Caney, 4100 pounds to the acre. The cotton of Texas is unsurpassed.—[Natchez Herald.

From the Farmer & Gardener.

LIME SPREADER.

[The difficulty of making an uniform distribution of any given quantity of lime on an acre of ground, and the injury experienced by laborers engaged in the operation, have long been felt by the agricultural community, and we are, therefore, happy in believing that both these inconveniences have been obviated by the invention of our ingenious townsman, Francis H. Smith, Esq., who we believe has succeeded in so constructing a cart, that any given number of bushels of either stone or shell lime may be equally spread over the entire surface of a field of any dimensions. His cart has been submitted to the test of practical experiments upon the farms of several of the gentlemen in this vicinity, and as we learn, gave the most decided satisfaction in every instance. The last experiment is thus flatteringly spoken of by several of our most extensive and intelligent land-holders, and from our personal knowledge of the accomplished inventor's acquaintance with mechanics as a science, we have no doubt it will receive the approbation of the entire farming and planting interests.]—*Ed. Farmer and Gardener.*

Having this day witnessed, at the Orange farm, the operation of F. H. Smith's machine for spreading lime, we cheerfully unite in giving our opinion of the result. The shells were thrown into the cart direct from the kiln.—These were sufficiently ground up and distributed with uniformity over the land as the cart was moved along. We are of opinion that no manual operation could do the work so well. The quantity per acre, judging merely from observation, in the three several degrees exhibited to us, was about 50, 100 and 200 bushels. It is evident, however, that the quantity may be regulated at pleasure. This experiment was made with *shell lime*. One of the undersigned has, with the machine, covered 7 acres with *stone lime*, with great expedition, and to his entire satisfaction. We are of opinion that it is equally adapted for spreading lime, ashes, marl, or any friable manure. We are so well pleased with the machine that we have each of us ordered one from Mr. Eastman.

J. W. Patterson,
James Swan,
Robert Gilmor, Jr.
S. W. Smith,
William Donnell.

Baltimore, Dec. 29, 1836.

☞J. S. Eastman has now put 12 of the above machines in hand, which will require 6 or 8 weeks to complete. Part of them are already engaged; those who wish to have in time for operating in the spring, are advised to have their names at his Agricultural Warehouse in Pratt street.

The cost of the machine, including the patent right, is $100. To apply the machinery to a wagon or cart $45. In five minutes the machinery may be detached.

From the Farmers' Register.

ON THE ADVANTAGES OF KEEPING INDIAN CORN IN THE SHUCK, OR HUSK.

The bread of the Indian corn is that principally used by much the greater portion of the people of the Southern States—and their choice is directed as much by taste and preference, as by economy. Corn bread is not liked by foreigners, or persons who have not been accustomed to its use; but if the taste for it is *acquired*, it is not the less strong and enduring. But I, for one, maintain that *good* corn bread, in sundry of the modes in which it is prepared and presented at *country* tables, has a value that does not depend upon habit or the acquired taste of the consumer. But corn bread that is bad, whether from being cold or stale, or being badly prepared, or from being made of grain of bad quality, is indeed very poor food: and nineteen times in twenty, one or more of these causes affect the quality of the bread, even on the tables of the wealthy and almost always of townsmen, who buy their meal ready ground. It is indeed surprising how little attention is generally paid to the quality of this most important article of food—and how many persons, who are abundantly careful, and willing to incur any necessary expense, to procure the best of other articles for their tables, are content with corn-bread that is always bad, because made of weevil-eaten or filthy corn—heated in grinding by the rapid motion of the mill-stones, and probably, withal, imperfectly cooked. As to the last matter, though a very important one, I leave it to the consideration of the wives who read the Register. But as to the condition of the material used, *that* is a matter for the sellers and buyers of corn and meal to attend to, and to which little or no attention is paid by the seller, because little or none is required by the buyer. We are all very choice in the quality of wheat flour, and but few persons in comfortable circumstances, in Virginia, will be content with any but "family flour" which is a grade superior to the best sent abroad, (or to the best "superfine") and costs more by about 20 per cent—making a difference of about $3 in the barrel, at the present very high prices. But for corn and its meal, there is seldom any difference of price on account of quality. If very foul, or damaged, a parcel offered for sale will probably be rejected at any price; but it rarely happens that there

is a difference of price of 5 cents, or even 1 cent per bushel, between tolerable corn, or meal, and samples of the purest and sweetest. Hence the farmer and seller of the corn, is not operated on by self-interest, the strongest inducement to have it in the best condition. It is not, therefore, strange, that purchasers should provide persons in their employment with bad corn bread, and have to eat it themselves, or to abstain from its use, which is more usual in town than country, solely on this account. But it *is* strange, that farmers who eat of their own corn, should be so generally regardless of the proper preservation of the portion designed for bread at home, as well as of the greater mass for sale, and for feeding stock.

No kind of grain, in this climate, can be so easily and certainly kept free from deterioration of every kind, as Indian corn; and it is for that reason that generally no care is taken for the purpose, except to keep it for home consumption in the ear, and usually in open log cribs, thus permitting the air to pass through the whole bulk. As the corn shelled, at short periods, for meal for the family, is taken from the ears, and these usually selected carefully to avoid the rotten ones that may have been admitted, the quality will not be materially injured by any outward contamination, as every thing of the kind is left among the shattered grain at the bottom of the bulk. But in most summers, in Eastern Virginia and more South, the moth weevil commences its depredations by July—and when they are plenty every ear of corn receives more or less injury, and of a kind which cannot possibly be removed by a loss of quantity. The maggot of the weevil eats the greater part of the interior of the grain, leaving the outer surface untouched except at the small hole where the mature insect comes out—the whole cavity remaining filled with its excrement and its cast skin. The extent of this loss of the substance of the grain, and of contamination to the portion left, varies with the season, and the exposure of the corn. But there are but few years in which corn kept in the usual manner as late as August, or wheat until September, does not furnish bread more or less injured by this insect.

Corn may be kept almost free from weevil and every other cause of injury to its quality, by being put up in the shuck—using the precautions necessary for that mode, and which I shall proceed to state.

When housed in the shuck, it is necessary that corn should be perfectly ripened, and dry, both as to ear and shuck. I have so put up large quantities of corn, and with success, from the first to the latter part of November. But I would not advise it to be commenced until late in November, unless when the early maturity, and perfect dryness of the corn, left no doubt of its safety. The shucks should also be free from any accidental moisture from rain or dew, or from lying on the earth—and the house should be perfectly secure from the entrance of rain. The open-sided log cribs, which are best for shucked corn, are not safe for that not shucked; because driving rains will penetrate at the sides, and the shucks, when thus made wet, cannot dry, as naked ears of corn would, and the dampness will affect more than the exterior ears.—Close framed houses are therefore the best—and if the corn is dry, and perfectly matured, there is no danger from the largest bulk.

I have put up corn in considerable quantities, in this manner, though with not as much care as I now recommend to be taken by others, and never have had any injured when in closely boarded houses. Some small losses were suffered, more than once, in open cribs, evidently by rain having penetrated—and in one case, the last crop, 1835—from the corn having been put up too damp. But of this crop, much corn, for want of being dry, was lost in great quantities, and in many places, in every usual mode of being secured. Mine was put up under the management of a very careless agent, from whose carelessness so much other loss was sustained, that this one furnishes no evidence of the plan being unsafe in any case, with proper attention.

When corn is thus put up, the shucks covering the ears protect the grain effectually from the moth-weevil, except the very few eggs that might have been laid in autumn, on forward corn while standing in the field. Even of these few probably but a small proportion will hatch, while so closely packed in bulk and excluded from air, except at the surface of the bulk. Rats and mice, according to their number, of course will have their full share under any circumstances; but the protection of the shuck confines their depredations to the outer and exposed parts of the bulk, and guards all other parts from their filth. If these vermin, and the black weevil, could be guarded against, I believe that corn put up in the shuck might be kept securely, and in the best condition, not only through one, but for many years.

I confess that my opinions on this subject are not altogether practical, or sustained by full and sufficient experiments. It was not to keep sale corn in the best possible manner for bread, that my practice was begun and continued. Like other producers, I had no interest in taking much trouble to offer the commodity in *better* condition than consumers required or would pay for. But when corn was below a remunerating price, (and that was generally the case

from 1820 to 1830,) I preferred to keep my surplus for the consumption of a future year. It was for this purpose that I commenced and continued the practice of putting up corn in the shuck; and it was once kept as long as into the third summer after being so housed, without *much* injury. This, the oldest corn I ever kept, then sold at from $3 to $4 a barrel at the barn, after having been at less than $2 when first put up. The reason that there was any deterioration from age, was that less care was used than I have advised above. Besides this, to avoid taking up too much space, the stem of the shuck was broken off half-way in gathering, so as to leave the inner leaves only, instead of the whole, to protect the corn from weevil and other vermin. Still the corn in its third year of keeping was better than much that is sold and used for bread in the first, if in a bad year for weevil. Of corn kept in equally large bulks, into the second year, I never sustained any injury or loss, other than by rats, &c.

But there would be a more important object gained, both for public and individual interest, by the more general adoption of this plan, than merely having good and palatable bread. This would be the tendency to equalize the supplies of corn, and the prices, in good and bad years, and avoiding the great fluctuations which are so frequent in this staple product. Nearly all the corn made is consumed in our country, the foreign demand being extremely limited. The meal cannot be kept barrelled, like wheat flour, (unless kiln-dried,) nor will the corn keep good (as usually managed) more than one year, if as much. Therefore, the crop of each year is generally consumed in the course of the next. Besides—many poor and improvident producers will always glut the market with early sales, even if they have to buy again at double prices before another crop comes in. For these reasons, no crop that we make fluctuates so greatly in price as corn. A very plentiful crop serves to make the price less than will pay for the production—and as nearly all is eaten, sold or wasted within the next year, perhaps within a year after, with a short crop, the price may be doubled, or trebled. If it was the practice of many farmers to keep their surplus corn in the shuck in years of plenty and of low prices, to wait for a scarcity, the prices would never fall so low, nor rise so high as heretofore. The farmers who would adopt the plan would profit greatly by always selling at good prices, & yet they would serve the public by their timely supplies, and by thus preventing prices rising as high as they would be without such supplies.

It was not to profit by selling at highly advanced prices, that I commenced the practice of putting up and keeping corn in the shuck, though such was the result. Believing then (on account of the general low prices of this crop) that I ought to avoid cultivating more land in corn than would *certainly* supply the next year's consumption, and therefore, not designing to make it a principal sale crop—it was my purpose to keep the surplus of a large crop to supply a possible deficiency of a future year. But so great a deficiency never occurred to me, and sooner or later the corn remaining on hand was sold at a greatly advanced price. Between 1820 and '30, in lower Virginia, corn, at the farmer's cribs, was several times at less than 40 cents the bushel—and in some cases was offered at 20 cents, in large quantities. And yet no 4 years, if indeed 3 years, passed, without the price being as high at some time, as 80 to 100 cents. In the interior, far from navigable water, the fluctuations of price are still greater than where near to navigation, or to market, because of the expense of carrying to market when abundant, and of bringing corn from abroad when deficient; and therefore, in such places, the plan of keeping it would be still more beneficial than elsewhere.

E. R.

From the Farmers' Register.

ON THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF POSTS, WITH REFERENCE TO THEIR DURABILITY.

Perhaps there is no subject connected with agriculture, on which a greater diversity of opinion prevails, than the question, whether with reference to their durability, posts should be put into the ground green or seasoned? When I first settled, I took considerable pains to inform myself on this point by consultation with those whose experience should constitute them proper fountains of information. The diversity to which I have alluded, impaired greatly the acquisition of decisive results. Mr. Thomas Thweatt, of Dinwiddie, (a gentleman of great judgment and observation on all agricultural subjects,) related to me a circumstance which contributed much to the attainment of my object. He stated, (if my memory be correct,) that in the erection of his garden—a number of posts as he supposed, were prepared and suffered to remain until they were thoroughly seasoned. Its completion, however, required one in addition, which was taken from an adjacent tree, and immediately put in the ground. Seventeen years had elapsed, and every post had rotted down except that one, which remained sound. In the progress of my investigation, another instance was related, in which an entire side of a garden exhibited the same results. My own limited experience furnishes an

incident worthy of being mentioned. My garden enclosure was erected of posts while green. Several pieces remained exposed until they were completely seasoned. Out of these a horse-rack was constructed, which was entirely rotted down, while every post in the garden remains firm. From these facts, I deduce the belief, that a post planted when green will last longer than one previously seasoned; and for the reason that the operation of seasoning produces cracks in the timber, which admitting the moisture from the ground, cause its decay. I recollect to have read the account of an experiment proving that the inversion of posts, from the direction in which they grew, operated beneficially. Two gate-posts were hewn from the same tree—one was planted in the manner in which it grew, the other inverted. The former rotted while the latter was sound. It was accounted for in this way—that nature had formed valves for the ascension of the sap, which allowed the moisture from the ground to penetrate through the same channel; but that the inversion of these valves interposed a barrier to its admission. This theory corroborates the idea previously expressed, that the moisture of the ground, alternately penetrating within the timber, and in drouths, measurably receding, causes its decay. Whether the posts should be cut while the sap is up or down I am unable to determine. A writer in some of the numbers of the American Farmer, states that oak timber should be cut while the sap is up, because it is glutinous and forms a cement, or substance which acts as a preservative.

I have ventured to express these hasty and imperfect reflections, with the hope that, although they may not impart any useful information, they may elicit some from others. These are controverted subjects, in which every person who erects a gate or encloses a garden is deeply interested—and their further discussion will be valuable, at least to S.

AMERICAN SILK.—Mrs. Kimball, of Hopkinton, appeared at the Fair of the Merrimac county Agricultural Society, in Concord, on Wednesday last, clad in rich and durable silk of her own manufacture. She procured the mulberry trees, raised the worms, reeled, twisted, colored, and wove the silk with her own hands.—[Dunstable Telegraph.

LEAD MINE.—A farmer, while quarrying rock about 30 miles from St. Louis, in Morgan county, Missouri, has discovered a new and valuable Lead Mine. The quantity is abundant and the mineral assayed yielded seventy-five per cent.

PRUNING TREES.

We notice that some of our neighbors have already commenced pruning their fruit and shade trees. The operation had better be omitted until the month of May or even the fore part of June, as the wounds made by cutting off limbs at that season, will sooner be covered with new wood than those made by cutting during the winter. The pruning of fruit-trees may be omitted until after they have passed the flower, and the young fruit begins to show itself, the limbs to be cut away can be more judiciously selected with regard to the crop.—Ornamental trees may be trimmed as soon as they begin to leaf out. In cutting off a limb, a small cut should always be made on the lower side first, then the limb may be sawed or cut on the upper side without the danger of splitting down when nearly off, which often happens when this precaution is not taken.

YANKEE INGENUITY.

The whole world must, ere long, acknowledge the superiority of Yankee ingenuity, and already many portions of it have tacitly made the admission, by the employment of American mechanics in the superintendence of various kinds of mechanical business. Gen. Tallmadge, in a letter from St. Petersburgh, remarks that the foreman of the principal machine factory at Manchester, (England,) is an American, from Providence; and the principal manufacturer employed by the King of Prussia, is a native of Baltimore. Henry Eckford was for a long time the master ship-builder for the Sultan of Turkey; and we saw stated a few days since, that several elegant buggies have been exported, per order, to England from Newark, N. J. Two inventions, which are considered by the English as the greatest improvement of the age, are the fruits of Yankee ingenuity—the machine for making the weaver's reed, invented by J. A. Wilkinson of Rhode Island, and the "self-regulator" to the power-loom, invented by A. Stone of the same State. But in point of ingenuity, we believe nothing can exceed the stock machine invented by Gen. Harvey, of this village, and now in successful operation in the manufacture of stock frames. Added to this, his machine to manufacture screws; his coining apparatus, and various others of minor importance, exhibit mechanical skill of the highest order.—Wherever our ingenuity and enterprise extend into foreign countries, an evidence and conviction of our greatness goes with them; and the non-recoiling rifle of young Cochran, made Mahmoud of Turkey exclaim, "If American BOYS can do this, what cannot their MEN do.—[Poughkeepsie Tel.

AGRICULTURE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Edinburgh Review for January, has an article on "the progress and present state of agriculture" in Great Britain, from which we take some statements. The comparison is made between the statistics of 1755 and 1831. It appears that during that time the population of Great Britain has more than doubled, viz: by an addition of 9,000,000. The number of team horses on roads and in the cities, has vastly increased; so that where one was formerly used, from twelve to twenty are now used, and the whole consumption of horse feed is from four to five times as much. The number of cattle and sheep annually raised for butcher's meat has increased in the same proportion as the population; and not only so, but the average weight of the animals has more than doubled. (By the way, if each individual eats twice as much butcher's meat as an individual did 50 years ago, as the statement implies, John Bull must be growing corpulent indeed.) Formerly a great deal of rye was eaten by the people. Wheat is now almost universally substituted and the rye given to horses. Now consider that Great Britain is an old settled country, that in 1755 it seemed almost overflowing with population, and that political economists were then devising means of checking population, apprehensive of perpetual famine,—and the increased agricultural production of the same territory is truly astonishing.

The causes of this improvement are, first, ENCLOSURES. During the period in question, 6,000,000 acres of land that formerly lay in common and in wastes of various descriptions, have been enclosed; and by draining, marling, and manuring, brought under refined cultivation, so that the production has been increased from 8 to 10 fold. Secondly, to say nothing of the introduction of fallows between successive grain crops, the substitution of green crops, (turnips, beets, &c.) in the place of fallows, has constituted a new era in agriculture. The third improvement consists in the superior mode of breeding and feeding cattle, to which the introduction of green crops has mainly contributed. The increase of 100 per cent. in the number of cattle and in the weight of the individual animal, above mentioned, is owing to this cause.—The fourth and last improvement mentioned, and one not inferior to any other, is the introduction and use of bone manure.

The oily ingredient of bones constitutes by many hundred per cent., the most fertilizing of all manures for immediate production, while the calcareous parts give a permanent fertility, by preventing the exhaustion which accompanies plaster and some other manures. So profitable is the use of bone manure found in England, that immense quantities of bones are imported from the continent in the crude state, and ground in the crushing mills at home. This manure has increased the turnip crop in many instances ten-fold above any former experience. To us it may seem incredible that whole farms should be thus manured. Mr. Dawson, however, of Withcall, near Louth, "has generally, about 600 acres of turnip, dressed almost entirely with bone manure."

Another cause of increased production is now coming rapidly into action, viz: facilities of transportation by steam-boats and rail roads; in virtue of which the full-fatted animal is now taken to market at one-fourth the expense which it formerly took to transfer the half-fatted animal. Improvements in implements might doubtless be assigned as another very important cause.

Whoever reflects on these statements must sigh when he adverts to the apathy, the want of invention and of enterprize, which characterize the greatest part of New England. The farmer of England pays an enormous sum annually in rent, excise, tithes, and for manure, and still gets rich. The farmer here, who owns his farm, and pays almost no taxes, complains that he cannot live, is growing poor, and must move to Michigan. This is wrong, and ought not so to be.—[Vermont Chronicle.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

FARMERS, LOOK OUT—TAKE WARNING—and be careful to have your hay well cured before you put it into your barns.

Mr. Seth Root, of Otis, in this State, lost 15 tons of good hay, by putting it into his barn too green, notwithstanding he had taken the precaution to give it a good sprinkling of salt.

For several days, Mr. R. noticed his hay-mow to be gradually sinking at the centre, and was much perplexed to divine the cause—the last week having occasion to ascend it to throw down some hay for his cattle—had taken off but a small quantity, when on a sudden a stream of flame, smoke and cinders burst upon him, that well near suffocated him, at the same time his feet gave way, he found himself ingulphed to his shoulders in smoke and embers, from which situation he fortunately very soon extricated himself, rather singed, and gave the alarm of fire; his neighbors by timely exertion, extinguished the fire and saved his barn. The hay was put into the barn the fore part of August, when ignition took place, and why no indication of the fire was sooner discovered, is left to the decision of the learned and curious.

[Hampden Whig.

INDIA RUBBER.

One of the most valuable uses to which India rubber has been applied, is the rendering of leather, or boots and shoes, impervious to water, and thus securing that important requisite to health —dry feet. Various kinds of rubber, paste and blacking, have within a few years been offered to the public, all good no doubt, but still at such prices, that common farmers, who surely need a preservative of this kind against the effect of almost continued exposure, were not, to any considerable extent, able to avail themselves of the benefit. My object in this paper is to state for the benefit of my brother farmers, and those who have suffered as I have done, the consequence of wet feet, the manner in which I prepare this substance for my own use, and which I find to answer every desirable purpose. I take common tallow, say one pound, and melt it in a small iron kettle holding about two quarts; the ordinary skillet would answer the same end. I have ready for use, cut into as fine strips or pieces as may be convenient, from 4 to 6 ounces of India rubber, and when the tallow begins to get pretty hot, I put in the gum, and gradually increase the heat, until by stirring I find it has completely dissolved and incorporated with the tallow. While this process is going on it will foam violently, and large volumes of pungent smoke will be thrown off, but I have never known it to take fire or other danger and inconvenience result from the preparation. When thus prepared it is applied with a brush in the same manner as tallow to boots and shoes, and with the same effect. A small quantity of lamp-black, combined with the mass when melted, will furnish blacking to the leather, and if any choose they may add the usual ingredients for making a paste for polishing. Farmers, however, are generally content, if they can keep their boots and shoes simply blacked and water proof, and this the proper application of the above cheap and easy preparation will insure. That it cannot be injurious to leather when used in this way, the nature of the substance and experience would both determine. For India rubber, I have always used old overshoes, of which a supply can in general be readily obtained, always rejecting the most worn, burned, or other defective parts. The spring of the year is the time farmers are most exposed, and I am confident the use of this preparation will prevent many a rheumatic twinge, if it should ward off nothing worse from him who is compelled to be out at all seasons.—[Genesee Farmer.

A SAFE-GUARD AGAINST FIRE.

A new, and it would appear, a most effectual safe-guard against fire, has been discovered by a gentleman of Washington. It is a composition of the appearance and consistence of paint, which when applied to wood, renders it secure from damage or destruction by fire. A public experiment of its utility was made last week, in Washington, in the presence of the Mayor, Gen. Gratiot, Col. Edwards, Mr. Cunningham, and several other gentlemen, the surprising results of which are thus noticed in the Georgetown Metropolitan:

Two small houses had been constructed of dry pine boards, the one open to permit a free passage for the flames and air, and the other close built and secure. Thirty barrels of pine shavings were then placed around and in contact with both the buildings, and six barrels of the same inflammable matter were piled up on the floor of the house, in contact also with the sides of the interior. When the match was applied, the flames rose to a considerable height above both the structures, with much fierceness—but on the decay of the fire, it was found that the house was not even scorched, except in one or two places, where the paint had not been well applied. The close built house, which had been properly prepared, escaped entirely. The fire continued for nearly an hour, in a manner that would certainly have reduced to a heap of ashes any pine, oak, or other wooden building covered with ordinary paint.

Col. Paimboef declares that this composition will not cost more than common paint, that it may be made as fine and beautiful, and various in color, and that it possesses far greater durability.

The gentlemen above mentioned, and others who witnessed the experiment, have issued a certificate, expressive of their satisfaction, and strongly recommending the paint to the attention of government.—[Balt. Amer.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The following is the amount of moneys received for sales of public lands, (as appears by a document sent to Congress) at the Land Offices in the States and Territories, within the year 1836, so far as the returns have been received:

Ohio,	$1,653,455 27
Indiana,	4,007,966 80
Illinois,	3,863,867 87
Missouri,	1,971,985 29
Alabama,	2,093,526 03
Mississippi,	2,323,167 48
Louisiana,	1,063,632 67
Michigan,	5,053,611 52
Arkansas,	1,134,358 43
Florida,	62,154 79
Wisconsin,	755,466 03
Total,	$23,983,192 18

AGRICULTURE.

We observe with astonishment and regret, the conclusive evidence which appears in every direction, that the business of agriculture does not receive the attention due to it in this country, but is treated with absolute neglect, compared with other pursuits. This ought not to be, and the inhabitants of this country will yet learn that they have committed a gross error by obandoning the cultivation of the soil for less independent and more precarious modes of obtaining a livelihood.

Who has ever before heard of such a state of things as now exists here? We have a soil as fertile as any that the sun ever shone upon, a country almost boundless in extent, and so cheap that any man may purchase a farm with the proceeds of a few months' labor, yet we are actually importing, for consumption, immense quantities of agricultural products from foreign countries! A people, thinly scattered over a land unequalled in fertility and exhaustless in its resources, are buying their bread at enormous prices, from countries so overburthened with inhabitants that political economists have feared that the earth would fail to produce sufficient to support them. Such an extraordinary and unnatural circumstance should excite attention, and awaken the inquiry as to its cause.

The fault, as we have seen, is not in the soil; nor is the country overrun with inhabitants. It is therefore evident that the CULTIVATION of the soil is neglected, otherwise we should be exporting instead of importing agricultural products, but it is easier to show the fact that agriculture is neglected, than to find a sufficient reason for such neglect. We apprehend, however, that it will be found to spring in a great measure from the same causes which have produced much evil in this country and the bitter fruits of which we are now reaping. The first and chief of these causes, is the inordinate thirst for wealth which pervades every class of society, and induces men to abandon their legitimate business to engage in some wild, hazardous speculation, in the hope of becoming suddenly rich. It is also too often the case that the farmer becomes tired of the moderate and gradual accumulation of property by the products of his land, and leaves the cultivation of it to engage in the business of commerce or manufactures. He finds out his egregious mistake when it is too late. The property he had accumulated is often squandered and lost in consequence of his ignorance of new business, and he again sighs for the cheerful and independent mode of life which he has abandoned, when it is out of his power to resume it. We have in our mind numberless instances of this kind, where industrious and prosperous farmers have been lured to their ruin by being induced to lay aside the implements of husbandry, and engage in the universal scramble after sudden wealth.

There is another great error prevalent upon this subject, and that is, the business of agriculture is generally looked upon as less respectable than that of commerce, manufactures, or the professions; and wealthy farmers, instead of teaching their sons their own business, most usually transform them into merchants, lawyers, doctors, or dominees. This is all wrong. Agriculture is the very back-bone of all business, the main-spring of all wealth, and should be regarded as a profession of the highest respectability. It gives those engaged in it a feeling of independence, genuine nobleness without ostentation, honor, honesty, and firmness, well calculated to perpetuate the free institutions of our happy country. The truth of the eloquent panagyrics of the ancients upon this employment may be more easily realized here than in any other country upon earth. We confidently hope to see public opinion speedily righting itself upon this subject, and to find people seeking their permanent interests, and advancing the prosperity and glory of our wide domain, by engaging more generally, in this healthful, honest and independent business.—[New York Sun.

HOW TO MAKE A DOUBLE CROP ON POOR SOIL.

Plough up your ground intended for corn in the fall of the year, as you can plough it—let it lay till spring—at the opening of which when the frost is entirely out of the ground, give it a good ploughing, and harrow it down. It is then in good order for preparing to plant. Take of slaked ashes, two thirds, and of ground plaster one-third; mix them well together, and follow the droppers, and put as much of this mixture on the seeds as you can grasp in your hand and cover it well over in the usual way. The corn will grow off finely, and retain a strong vigorous growth and green color, and stand the drouth much better than upon the strongest culture. The writer of this having tried the experiment for two years has fully tested its value.

To relieve cattle choked with apples, &c., a correspondent in the Maine Farmer recommends drawing out the tongue of the animal and putting a quantity of gunpowder down the throat. It causes the animal to cough violently and throw out the obstruction in the passage.

Idle people have the most labor.

AMERICAN MECHANICS, AND DEMOCRACY.

Perhaps there is no part of a population so valuable to the community as the mechanic who thinks and acts for himself. We are sure of this fact, and have always been surprised that a class of our citizens so valuable to the community, and so necessary to the support of the country, should be so indifferent to themselves and their country.

Old Ben Franklin was one of the wisest, shrewdest, and greatest mechanics of the day. His "Poor Richard" will make any poor man rich. What is the secret of his success?—many a mechanic may ask. Ah! that is the thing.—When we find out this secret, we can all be Franklins, and we can all be rich.

We have often studied the character of this great man, from the time he was sticking types in Boston, to the time he was wandering thro' the streets of Philadelphia with a loaf of bread under his arm, or sat with kings or queens in Paris, or brought down the lightning from heaven by his kite. The secret of his success, we have thought in part was INDUSTRY, which very many have—FRUGALITY, a virtue many also have, but above all he THOUGHT and ACTED for himself. His HEAD belonged to himself. He was no man's man, but he was Ben Franklin's man. He wore no collar. When he acted with a party, he so acted because he thought it was right.

'But,' says some one, 'you say industry and frugality are common virtues with mechanics. Why are not all mechanics rich? The reason is, that there are very many who will not think for themselves. In an affair of business, for example, instead of sitting down and making their own calculations, they trust others to sit down and calculate for them. Instead of employing their leisure hours in studying out for themselves, and reading for themselves, how the world is going, they sit down and listen to others, and take their say so, that is right, and that is wrong.

It is in vain to disguise that this world is divided into men of two extremes of thinking, with very many men of many minds, forming links between these two extremes. Men who for popularity's sake, call themselves democrats, as Robespierre did in France, when he was cutting off people's heads by the regiment, till the very streets of Paris were clotted with human gore—such men, we say, tell us, that what is called democracy represents one of these classes which they call THE PEOPLE'S FRIENDS, and whigism, alias federalism, alias aristocracy, the other class, THE ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE. Now a mechanic who has eyes and ears, will not take this upon trust, but will do as old Ben Franklin did, and demand, IS THIS SO? Well, is it so?—Let us discuss this question, and think for ourselves as we go.

Generally speaking, a very rich man's son is likely to be less of an aristocrat, than a poor man suddenly made rich and prosperous. The reason is, that a rich man's son is accustomed to wealth, and thinks nothing of it, whereas the poor man suddenly made a rich man, often has his head turned and made dizzy by the very dazzle of his wealth. He can't stand his prosperity, perhaps. Accustomed, for example, for all his life to sleep on a log of a bedstead, or to jog off miles on foot, the moment he gets rich, perhaps he out-dazzles the greatest dazzlers, and ottomans alone are good enough for his seat,—the carpets of Turkey for HIM to walk upon, while he sports his equipage out of doors, his servants and his livery, and astonishes the beholders with his magnificence and state. Now, Ben Franklin in this case would ask, which is the aristocrat—the rich man's son, or the poor man's son made rich?

Again, Ben Franklin judged people by their acts, and not by their professions. If he had been called upon to ask which of two candidates was the democratic candidate, and which was the friend of the people, he would not have looked to the professions of either but to the ACTS of both. If by democracy is meant love of our fellow-men, he would have asked which had shown the greatest forgetfulness of self, and which had done most for his fellow men? Which in his manners, in his conduct, and his life exhibited the greatest regard for the people, and the people's interests? Old Ben Franklin would never have believed that a man was a democrat, because some one said, "I told you so," but he would have opened his eyes to see and his ears to hear.

The great obstacle in the way of the advancement of the poor and of the workingmen of this country, is that they do not always think for themselves, and that they too often suffer others to think for them. But let them remember that the moment they suffer others to think for them, that very moment they cease to belong to themselves, and belong to him to whom they have entrusted their thinking powers. For what else has God given us our eyes and our ears but to SEE and to HEAR for ourselves? If we trust these eyes and these ears to others, we are slaves, white though we be, and if some southern planters do not own our bodies, some Northern Demagogues own more, our bodies and our souls. Above all then, THINK FOR YOURSELVES—ACT FOR YOURSELVES. Wear no man's collar—be no man's and no party's dog. If others choose to bark, and to howl, when leaders pinch them, and tell them so to do, be independent, as the Deity who made you, and think and act for

yourself. Newspapers may talk of party allegiance, party collars, 'the usages of party,' 'regular nominations,' and all that rigmarole of party, but an independent man will think and act as he pleases.—[N. Y. Express.

LABOR BENEFICIAL TO STUDY.

We find in one of our exchange papers, an extract from Weld's report on manual labor—a report which we have not seen, but which we should be pleased to possess—going to show, conclusively, that labor DOES NOT RETARD, but PROMOTES, the intellectual progress of students, when they alternate it with their studies. We consider the general recognition of this principle so important to physical health, so consonant to republican habits, and so salutary in its influence upon agricultural and mechanical labor, that we cannot refrain from presenting, in a condensed form, the opinions, in this matter, of some of the most eminent scholars and teachers of our land. The question seems to have been put to these gentlemen whether three hours labor in a day would retard or promote the intellectual improvement of young men engaged in acquiring a literary education. The answers of the undernamed are indicated as follows:

Rev. Dr. Greene, Philadelphia.—It would promote the acquisition of knowledge in a very important degree.

Prof. Keith, Alexandria.—It will not retard progress in study.

Prof. Ripley, Newton.—It will greatly promote progress in study.

Rev. Dr. Ware, Cambridge.—It would promote the intellectual progress of students more than sufficient to compensate for the loss of time.

Prof. Griffin, Williamstown.—It would accelerate their progress in learning.

Pres. Chapin, Washington.—It would rather accelerate than retard progress in study.

Pres. Fisk, Middletown.—It would not retard progress in study.

Pres. Humphreys, Annapolis.—The remaining time will acquire an increased value, enough to make up for the loss.

Hon. T. S. Grimke, Charleston.—Three hours exercise, and nine hours of study, will accomplish far more in a series of years, than 14 hours study, and no exercise.

Pres. Cassett, Ky.—I have never witnessed such rapid progress in study as that which has been made by the manual labor students of this college.

Prof. Woods, of Andover—expresses a like opinion, in regard to the beneficial effects of labor upon literary students at Andover.

If one fourth of a literary student's time, can be usefully appropriated to labor, to promote health, and impart new vigor to the mind, how much greater would be the advantages to students intended for agriculture and the mechanic arts, if, in the time allotted to study, they could acquire a practical knowledge in their future business. Now, if we vary the proportions, and give to students who are destined to live by agriculture or the mechanic arts, an equal portion of time for study and for labor, their progress in their studies would not be likely to be seriously retarded, while they will have made good progress in acquiring a profession.—[Albany Cultivator.

EXCERPTS.

SELECTED FOR THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

What you do undertake, be careful to execute in the best manner.

Through life I have observed there is no superfluous civility that brings more dissatisfaction to its donor, than a party. Those that are not invited become his enemies; while those who are, receive the intended compliments as their due, and depart, ridiculing the inadequacy of his efforts.—[F. Reynolds.

The hottest disputants are oftenest in error; the most abusive antagonists the greatest rogues; the patriots bursting with heroic and prospective rage, are exactly those who care least for the national weal, and most for their own personal aggrandizement.

The vanity of young men in loving fine clothes and new fashions, and valuing themselves by them, is one of the most childish pieces of folly that can be, and the occasion of great profuseness and undoing of young men. Avoid curiosity and too much expensiveness in your apparel; let your apparel be comely, plain, decent, cleanly, not curious and costly; it is the sign of a weak head-piece to be sick for every new fashion, or to think himself the better in it, or the worse without it.—[Sir Matthew Hale.

The wind runs in a breeze from four to five miles; in a fresh gale from 20 to 25; in a hard gale from 40 to 50; in a storm from 50 to 60; and in a hurricane from 80 to 100 miles per hour.

The pressure of the atmosphere, on the surface of the earth, sustains a column of mercury 28 inches high; and one of water 32 feet. The fall of mercury in the tube of a Barometer, is in the ratio of one tenth of an inch for every 103 feet.

When a young man has acquired a love for reading & of course a relish for intellectual pleasures, he has one of the best preservatives against dissipation. A fondness for low company and noisy and intemperate pleasure, is generally the

consequence of ignorance and want of taste. A plain and short road to a good destiny.

Be studious and you will be learned. Be industrious and frugal, and you will be rich. Be sober and temperate, and you will be healthy. Be virtuous, and you will be happy.

Would you punish the spiteful? Show him that you are above his malice. The dart he threw at you will rebound and pierce him to the heart.

Solo. Southwick says that 100 volumes octavo can be read studiously in four years, by an allotment of only two hours daily to the task and persevering steadily in it.

Resolution is omnipotent. Determine that you will do something. Aim at excellence and excellence will be obtained—this is the great secret of eminence. "I cannot do it," never accomplished any thing; "I will try," has wrought wonders.

Drunkenness operates as a sentence of eternal banishment from all that is useful and beautiful; it is the third and last flight of the patriarch's dove, and he who takes it returns no more.—[S. K. Paulding.

1. Every business in life is mainly dependent for its prosperity upon the labors of agriculture.

2. The prosperity of a State is determined by the good or bad state of its husbandry.

3. The improvements and profits of agriculture, and the consequent prosperity of a State, are in the ratio of the measure of intelligence which guides its labors.—[Judge Buel.

Industry, economy and sobriety are impenetrable shields against poverty and want. No people can be happy, and no government can be safe where religion and morality are not the predominant habits of the mass of its population.

Never do that by proxy which you can do yourself.

Never defer that till to-morrow, which you can do to-day.

Never neglect small matters and expenses.—[Spectator, 283.

With method, almost any thing may be done, and without method nothing well done.—[Dr. Johnson.

Without employment the mind becomes relaxed and inert.

None are more liable to temptation, or to employ themselves in doing evil, than the idle.—[President Davies.

Brandy and water and segars, and a fast trotting horse, a pocket book with bank notes, gaming and late hours, are the rocks on which are shipwrecked many bright hopes and alluring prospects—the fond anticipation of good parents, and the realization of anxiously desired blessings.—[M. M. Noah.

Grains, said the great Newton, are God's bounties; flowers his smiles.

The grand arcanum of management lies in the three simple rules as follows:

Let every thing be done at a proper time.

Keep every thing in its proper place.

And put every thing to its proper use.

Education and instruction are the means, the one by use, the other by precept, to make our natural faculties of reason both the better and sooner to judge rightly between truth and error, good and evil.

It begins to be well understood now that the cause of intemperance is to be found in the *moderate* drinking of temperate men. No man can become the slave of a drunken appetite, who drinks no strong drink. And no man who drinks it can consider himself safe—for the simple reason that he who drinks, cannot help getting the drunken appetite, and he cannot tell how soon it will seize the reins and become his master.

D. W.

AWFUL CALCULATION.

An ingenious, authentic and valuable statistical work, published recently, states, the number of inhabitants who have lived on the earth, amount to about 36,627,823,275,075,846. This sum the writer says, when divided by 3,096,000, the number of square leagues of land on the surface of the globe, leaves 11,820,732 persons to each square mile. Let the miles be reduced to square rods, and the number, he says, will be 5,858,173,500, which being divided as above, gives 1283 inhabitants to a square rod, which rod being reduced to feet and divided as above, will give 5 persons to each square foot of terra on the globe. Let the earth be supposed to be one vast burying ground, and according to the above statement, there will be 1283 persons to be buried on each square rod, capable of being divided into 12 graves, it appears that each grave contained 100 persons, and the whole earth has been 100 times dug over to bury its inhabitants, supposing they had been equally distributed. What an awful, overwhelming thought! what a lesson to the infatuated being who centres all his hopes and affections upon the evanescent pleasures of this truly transitory life!

Economy is the parent of integrity, of liberty and ease, the beautiful sister of temperance, of cheerfulness and health.

Don't be frightened if misfortune stalks into your humble habitation. She sometimes takes the liberty of walking into the presence-chamber of Kings.

THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

JONESBOROUGH, MARCH, 1837.

TO THE PUBLIC.

☞We are at length enabled to present the FARMER to our patrons, printed on new type, which, it is hoped, will have added to its exterior appearance. The Editor regrets that a long and severe indisposition of several weeks' duration, has disabled him from adding the fruits of his own labors for the enhancement of its intrinsic value, as he had confidently expected to have done. Should his health be restored, his time in future will be chiefly devoted to that object alone, and he hopes thereby to render the work more deserving of the public patronage than has hitherto been practicable. He solicits earnestly the aid of the friends to agriculture, by communications on such subjects as they may deem useful, and particularly by furnishing him with detailed statements of their experiments. On these, and on the liberal patronage of the public, he relies, to enable him to continue the publication of the work and to ensure its progressive improvement and consequently its usefulness in promoting the best interests of the agricultural community.—Subscribers who may be in arrears are respectfully requested to avail themselves of the earliest opportunity of remitting what may be due, as the recent expenditures incurred, require considerable funds for the reimbursement; and the ordinary expense of publication is so great as to render the punctual payment of subscriptions essential to the continuance of the work. To those numerous patrons who have paid in advance, he tenders his thanks. Whole copies of the work, from its commencement, may yet be had, and will be forwarded to order.

ADDITIONAL LIST OF AGENTS.

ISAAC COLLETT—Glennsville, E. Ten.
AMOS DAVID—Wolf River P. O., W. Ten.
GEORGE W. HALE, P. M.—Oleander, Ala.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—Under the head of "curious and true," the St. Clair Gazette says: "Mr. Henry Levens, who has been a respectable citizen of Illinois for 40 years, in his 94th year exhibits the remarkable phenomenon of wearing an entire crop of new black hair, of luxuriant growth, instead of the thin gray locks which he had worn for the last 20 years. His eye-sight has likewise been restored, being now capable of reading the finest kind of print with ease. He has also been supplied by nature with a good set of new teeth.

From the Mechanic & Farmer.

EARLY POTATOES.

Mr. Editor: It is rather late I know to talk about raising potatoes, but I have but little to say and think it worth repeating early next spring. About the first of September last, I dined at the house of Hon. W. R. Lowney of Sebec, and could not help observing that the potatoes were very fine and fully ripe. He told me that these potatoes were not planted earlier than his principal crop, which probably would not be fully ripe under two or three weeks.—The difference was in his mode of preparing them to plant, which is as follows:—Three or four weeks before he is ready to put them into the ground, he selects as many as he wants to plant for early use, of such as are of middling size, and puts them into a large box and covers them from 12 to 18 inches deep with unfermented horse manure; when ready to plant, he takes them out carefully and puts them into the ground without breaking the sprouts. He told me that potatoes will grow from whole ones a week sooner than though they were cut.

M. S.

NEATNESS.

Let order o'er your time preside,
And METHOD all your business guide;
One thing at once be still begun,
Contriv'd, resolv'd, pursu'd and done;
Ne'er till to-morrow's light delay
What might as well be done to-day;
Neat be your barns—your houses neat—
Your doors be clean—your court-yards sweet—
Neat be your farms—'tis long confess'd,
The neatest farmers are the best.

CONTENTS.

On Blue Glass, No. 4, page 33. Making Cheese, 35. Receipts in Cookery, 36. The proper distances for planting Corn—Cotton Crops in Texas, 37. Lime Spreader—On the advantages of keeping Indian Corn in the Shuck, or Husk, 38. On the proper management of Posts, with reference to their durability, 40.—American Silk—Lead Mines—Pruning Trees—Yankee Ingenuity, 41. Agriculture of Great Britain—Spontaneous Combustion, 42. India Rubber—A Safeguard against Fire—The Public Lands, 43. Agriculture—How to make a double Crop on poor Soil—To relieve Cattle choked with Apples, &c., 44. American Mechanics and Democracy, 45. Labor beneficial to Study—Excerpts, 46. Awful Calculation—Sayings, 47.—To the Public—Additional List of Agents—Singular Phenomenon—Early Potatoes—Poetry, 48.